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P R E S S R E L E A S E

_____Rick Thompson, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today the return of an indictment on June 6, 2002 by the federal grand jury sitting in Savannah against Larry W. Scott, of Swainsboro, Georgia, a former Vice President of Spivey State Bank in Swainsboro.

The one (1) count indictment charges Scott with a violation of the federal bank fraud statute, 18 U.S.C. § 1344. The indictment charges Scott with executing a scheme to defraud and steal a total of approximately \$211,000 from Spivey State Bank between 1996 and 2001.

The maximum statutory penalties for the offense charged in the indictment are as follows: not more than thirty (30) years imprisonment or not more than \$1,000,000 fine, or both, plus a term of supervised release of not more than five (5) years, and a \$100.00 special assessment.

Mr. Thompson stressed that an indictment is only an accusation and is not evidence of guilt. The Defendant is entitled to a fair trial, in which it will be the Government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case has been investigated by Special Agent Marcus

Kirkland of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney James D. Durham, of Savannah, will represent the Government.

14-02